



Hillsborough County Fair

Youth Market Turkey Show & Sale

2026 Show & Sale Rules

November 5-15, 2026

**Hillsborough County Fair Grounds- 215 Sydney Washer Rd., Dover, FL
33527**

Important Dates:

Entry Forms (Online Only): Open March 1, 2026; Close April 1, 2026

Drawing: April 7, 2026, at 6 PM

Mandatory Exhibitor Meeting: June 20, 2026 at 9am

Turkey Poult (baby turkey) Pick Up: June 20, 2026, at 9am

Check In to 2025 HCF: Wednesday, November 4, 2026, from 6-8 PM

Judging: Thursday, November 5, 2026

Sale: Saturday, November 7, 2026, at 5 PM

THIS IS A TERMINAL SHOW!! ALL TURKEYS WILL GO TO PROCESSING!!

Please be sure to also read the "General Livestock Rules of the Hillsborough County Fair"

Exhibitor Rules:

1. To be eligible to show in the 2026 Hillsborough County Fair, youth must be in grades K-12 and either enrolled in Hillsborough County Public or Private Schools, homeschooled in Hillsborough County, or a member of Hillsborough County 4-H, FFA, or YLPA (see specie rules for specific age requirements). Though we encourage all youth to be involved in the 4-H, FFA, or YLPA programs, it is not required if all other eligibility requirements are met. Youth must be between the ages of 5-18.
2. There will be a limit of 55 participants and 5 chapters. Entry forms must be completed online by Wednesday, April 1, 2026, at midnight. Forms will be time stamped by online

system. There will be a drawing for the Market Turkey Show/Sale on April 7, 2026, at 6 PM at the Hillsborough County Fairgrounds. You must be present at the drawing to be eligible and payment MUST be made the night of the drawing.

3. Exhibitor will be allowed to raise 2 turkeys but only 1 will be entered in the TERMINAL Turkey sale. If you would like to exhibit your extra turkey, you can enter the Poultry Show (check-in November 11, 2026, see Poultry Rules). *PLEASE NOTE, ONCE BIRDS ARE IN YOUR POSSESSION, THE FAIR CANNOT REPLACE ANY BIRDS THAT ARE LOST!
4. Entry fee is \$25 for 1 bird, or \$40 for 2. Once a selection is made on entry forms for 1 or 2 birds, you may not change the amount. Please select Class 1 for 1 bird, and Class 2 for 2 birds!
5. Poult Pick Up: June 20, 2026, at 9am. Exhibitor will pick up birds ordered and will receive a small bag of starter feed for the bird. Exhibitor must be present for poult pick up. There will be a MANDATORY exhibitor meeting for youth to learn about care and nutrition for your bird. This meeting will be at the market turkey poult pick up, June 20, 2026. Please bring a container with dry shavings for bedding to take your bird home. Poults will be close to 3 weeks old at time of pick up so please plan for raising these birds in a brooder or under a heat lamp at first. Each participant will receive a turkey and turkeys will be from a straight run (mixture of hens and toms).
6. Show: Each exhibitor will be allowed to exhibit 1 turkey in the 2026 Youth HCF Market Turkey Show. This show will be separate from the 2026 HCF Poultry Show. If you decide to show your extra bird at the poultry show, entry forms must be filled out to exhibit in that show. Please make sure you transport your bird in safe conditions with non-slippery surfaces while transporting. Birds will be checked in on Wednesday, November 4, 2026, between 6-8 PM. Every bird will be banded with a leg band for identification at check in. Birds will be kept and cared for by fair staff from Wednesday, November 4 through Sunday, November 8, 2026. All participants will be given a cage number and leg band ID number for their bird.
7. Fair Entry: Each participant will receive an armband that will allow entry from Thursday, November 5 through Sunday, November 8, 2026. Each participant will also receive 2 parent/guardian armbands per exhibitor to use for parents or buyers.
8. The minimum weight required for exhibitor turkeys will be 15 pounds. Birds will be weighed at check in to allow your bidder to see the weight of the bird they intend to bid on. The weight will be displayed on the cages. Birds will be checked by state inspectors to adhere to state rules and to check that birds are of show quality.
9. Sale: The exhibitor will have NO option but to enter the sale at time of check in with their project. Exhibitor must sell their own animal. If the exhibitor does not sell their own animal, they will not be able to enter the drawing the following year. The exhibitor must bring 1 bird to the sale. Birds sold in the sale will be transported to the processor. Please be aware all entered in sale are terminal projects and birds will be sent to the processor. **NO BIRDS WILL LEAVE WITH THE EXHIBITOR. ALL BIRDS WILL BE SENT TO PROCESSOR, no exceptions.** Selection of the bird entered must be made before you leave home and before check in. If exhibitor has a bird not entered in the sale, you must leave the other bird at home to continue to raise or send to the processor after sale for your personal food consumption. Sale will be Saturday, November 7 at 5 PM. Buyers

- must register with Youth Market Coordinators. Payment MUST be received BEFORE birds are picked up from the processor. Buyers will pay processing fees for birds purchased. Processing is for whole bird packaging. THIS FEE IS TO BE PAID TO THE HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY FAIR AT THE END OF THE AUCTION. We encourage youth to find buyers for your turkey if entered in sale. Exhibitors will be responsible for sending thank you letters to buyers.
10. There will be a 4% deduction from all market animals. Please see General Livestock Rules.
 11. All General Livestock Rules apply to all species shows.
 12. Premiums: Blue Ribbon-\$10
Red Ribbon-\$7
White Ribbon-\$5
Grand and Reserve will receive ribbons, no additional premiums.

This is a TERMINAL sale. No live animals that are purchased in the Youth Market Animal Sale will leave the fair with the buyer or exhibitor. Animals will be transferred from the fair straight to the processor designated by the Hillsborough County Fair. In no instance shall an animal be purchased back from the processor by the exhibitor, exhibitor parents, or anyone associated with the exhibitor. All animals will be slaughtered immediately following the sale. No animal shown/sold will be shown elsewhere after the sale date of Nov. 7, 2026. The Hillsborough County Fair has an agreement with the processors and no animal will leave the processor facility unless slaughtered.

The Hillsborough County Fair is responsible for selecting processors for resale animals. Exhibitors are prohibited from reaching out to processors to purchase resale animals.

***Please note that the committee reserves the right to change, add, or omit guidelines at any time as deemed necessary. Exhibitors, parents/guardians, and advisors/leaders will be notified of any changes.**

**** Please be sure to read ALL General Livestock rules as they will apply also.**

Market Turkey Seminar and Poult Pick Up

Hillsborough County Fairgrounds

June 20, 2026 at 9am

Points will be awarded for attending and go toward premier exhibitor!!